

POTENTIAL INTERIM STUDY TOPICS

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTERIM COMMITTEE, 2007

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, 3/30/07

MASTER STUDY RESOLUTION

Items adopted by the Legislative Management Committee March 27 are referenced as "LMC". All other items are identified by their Master Study Resolution number.

ADOPTION

106. **Placing Children into Adoption:** to study limiting the placing of children into adoption to child placing agencies only.

CANCER

83. **Cancer Prevention:** to study vaccinations for cervical cancer.
96. **Low Income Cancer Screening:** to study expanding breast and cervical cancer screening for low income women ages 40-50.

CHILD WELFARE

203. **Foster Parent Signature for Driver License:** to study whether foster parents should be allowed to sign for a foster child's driver license, and examine the potential liability concerns (H.B. 213).

DISABILITIES

53. **School Services for the Deaf and Blind:** to study ways to more effectively provide services that will meet the needs of deaf and blind students throughout the state (3rd Sub. H.B. 291).
82. **Baby Watch and Early Intervention:** to study the feasibility of utilizing private insurance for the early intervention program.
84. **Children with Autism:** to study what measures can be taken to address the role of whether an unhealthy immune system is causing autism in children.
87. **Deaf/Blind:** to study definitions of "deaf" and "blind" in the Utah Code.
89. **Enhancing Service to Aged and Disabled:** to study and identify efficiencies and evaluate options for

enhancing and expanding the home and community-based care infrastructure and related services for aged and disabled Utahns.

HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

100. **Medically Uninsured:** to study reimbursement for health care services affecting the medically uninsured (H.B. 136).
103. **Nursing Care Facilities:** to study the need to lift the nursing home Medicare moratorium, how to allow more "choice" in skilled nursing home care, and how to bring more free market competitiveness into the nursing facility market.
104. **Nursing Home Moratorium:** to study a moratorium on new nursing homes that use Medicare funds.
109. **Telehealth:** to study telehealth and telemedicine initiatives.
110. **Transport Fees:** to study EMS transport and nontransport fees for emergency response.

HEALTH INSURANCE

13. **Health Insurance and Worker's Compensation:** to study issues related to health insurance managed care and worker's compensation.
14. **Insurance Mandates:** to study health insurance mandates and their effects on small businesses.
27. **Prosthetic Coverage:** to study insurance coverage for prosthetics.
33. **Small Business Health Insurance:** to study how to develop a basic health insurance product for small employers and their employees that is affordable and not subject to the traditional mandates.
34. **Small Business Health Plan:** to study and identify the most effective health insurance programs for small businesses that share actuarial risk broadly (H.B. 152).
86. **Contraceptive Equity:** to study issues related to contraceptive equity.

90. **Health Care Cost Shifting:** to study health care cost shifting and how it can be reduced.
93. **Insurance for Morbid Obesity:** to study requiring the Insurance Commissioner to adopt administrative rules directing insurance carriers to offer accident and health insurance for morbid obesity (H.B. 225).
97. **Managed Care and Insurance:** to study issues related to managed care, including existing law, and affordable health insurance.
108. **Rate Banding and Affordable Health Care:** to study rate banding by health insurers and affordable health care.
111. **Uninsured Issues:** to study health insurance for uninsured children over 200% of the federal poverty level, requiring full-time higher education students to have health insurance, and providing vaccines for underinsured children.
179. **Income Tax Deductions as Insurance Incentives:** to study income tax deductions for insurance premiums for businesses to motivate them to provide health insurance for their employees, and how to structure and implement (H.B. 406).
180. **Income Tax Subtractions for Medical Care:** to study modifying an individual income tax subtraction for amounts paid for certain insurance relating to medical care, and the subtraction for long-term care insurance (H.B. 43).

MEDICAID

91. **Health Care Financing Issues:** to study the relationships, similarities, differences, costs, patient characteristics, and outcomes between home and community-based waiver services and institutional care.
98. **Medicaid Provider Reimbursement Rates:** to study and compare Medicaid provider reimbursement rates with market

insurance rates and create a plan to improve provider rates.

99. **Medical Assistance Funds:** to study the portability of medical assistance funds (S.B. 61).
102. **Needs of Medicaid Patients:** to study requiring acceptance of Medicaid patients, how to better serve those individuals, and the level of funding for Medicaid patients.
107. **Promotion of Health Efficiencies:** to study requiring the Medicaid program to allow the use of telemedicine for certain services that are otherwise reimbursable under the state Medicaid plan, and review guidelines for reimbursing for telemedicine services (H.B. 444).
112. **Utah Premium Partnership:** to study the use of public and private partnerships to provide health insurance (H.B. 267).

LMC **Documentation of Legal Status for Health Services:** to study whether or not the Department of Health is following federal law requiring documentation.

MISCELLANEOUS

92. **Health Care Utilization:** to study whether there is overutilization of health care services in the public or private sector.
95. **Local Health Department Funding:** to study and evaluate state funding in relation to state services provided and other sources of local health department funding.
113. **Womens' Health:** to study womens' health issues.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

25. **Prescription Drug Information:** to study commercial use of prescription drug information.

PROFESSIONS

26. **Prescriptions by Psychologists:** to study licensure for prescriptions by psychologists.
94. **License Exemption in Child Care:** to study the license exempt portion of child care licensing.
101. **Midwife Licensing:** to study Direct-entry midwife licensure amendments.

LMC Retaining Emergency Room Physicians and On-call Coverage

PUBLIC HEALTH

50. **Obesity Prevention in Schools:** to study expanding Gold Medal Schools to include middle schools.
88. **Disaster Case Management:** to study "pay for performance" strategies for quality improvement and cost management of Medicaid disaster cases.
105. **Pandemic Issues:** to study the recommendation by the Governor's Task Force on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness to examine the effectiveness of executive branch emergency powers needed to respond to an influenza pandemic.
149. **Halting Fluoridation by Vote:** to study voting to remove fluoridation from the water supply of a city or town.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

130. **Consumption of Alcohol or Drugs when Pregnant:** to study options, including voluntary and involuntary treatment, and adding consumption of alcohol or drugs when pregnant to the definition of child neglect.

TOBACCO

85. **Cigarette Ignition:** to study reducing cigarette ignition propensity.

STATUTES REPEALED IN 2008

SUNSET REVIEW

- Pilot program for provision of supported employment services (DSPD, §62A-5-103.1; see §63-55-262)

NO SUNSET REVIEW

- Adjoining Private Clubs and Public Places – Grandfather Provisions (Indoor Clean Air Act, §26-38-4; see §63-55b-126)

ANNUAL AND PERIODIC REPORTS REQUIRED BY STATUTE

All reports are due this year unless otherwise noted. Reports with an asterisk fall within the purview of the committee but are required by statute to be made to the Executive Appropriations Committee, legislative leadership, or simply "the Legislature" rather than the Health and Human Services Interim Committee. Reports to the Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee are not included in the list below. All reporting requirements may be satisfied with a written report.

AGING

- Utah Commission on Aging*

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

- Center for Multicultural Health*
- Health Data Committee (2008)*
- Sale of raw whole milk (2008)

DISABILITIES

- Disability Determination Services Advisory Council
- DSPD services criteria and prioritization (periodic)
- Family preservation services pilot program (2008)
- Supported employment services pilot program

HEALTH INSURANCE

- Evaluation of health insurance market
- Health insurance benefit design
- Hemophilia services grants
- HIPUtah (Utah Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool) annual report*
- HIPUtah pilot program for discounted bleeding disorder drugs (prior to 10/30/10)

HEALTH PROFESSIONS

- Licensed direct-entry midwives
- Medical Education Council (as needed)*
- Rural residency training pilot program

MEDICAID/CHIP

- Children's Health Insurance Program
- Drug Utilization Review Board*
- Preferred drug list (2008)
- Primary care grants

MENTAL HEALTH

- Rural professional education program

MISCELLANEOUS

- Child Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel
- Low and moderate income housing
- New programs and agencies (none)

SUBSTANCE ABUSE/MISUSE

- Drug offender reform pilot study
- Medical examiner testing for substances in cases of suspected suicide (2008)
- Pain medication management and education
- Substance abuse and mental health program audits and reviews
- Utah Substance Abuse and Anti-Violence Coordinating Council*

TOBACCO

- Tobacco settlement revenues
- Tobacco—2002 cigarette tax increase

and effectiveness of the provision." In the past, similar reviews have been prepared by the Department of Insurance and reported to the interim committee. Due to other workload demands created by the Legislature, the department was unable to prepare reports during the 2005 and 2006 interims.

LEGISLATIVE AUDITS

- Carson Smith Special Needs Scholarship (scheduled to begin in June)
- Utah State Hospital

RELATED LEGISLATIVE STUDY GROUPS

- Medicaid Interim Committee
- Child Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel

FIVE-YEAR HEALTH INSURANCE REVIEWS

Section 36-12-5 requires the Business and Labor Interim Committee and the Health and Human Services Interim Committee, subject to the direction of the Legislative Management Committee, to study any health insurance provision "that impose[s] a mandatory obligation on health insurers with respect to coverage, benefits, or providers" in the fifth year following its enactment. Several provisions enacted in 2003 are up for review this year:

- Comprehensive health insurance pool (HIPUtah) amendments (S.B. 9)
- Prohibition on the use of Social Security numbers (H.B. 181)

Reviews are to include "the estimated fiscal impact of the provision on state and private health insurance; and...the purpose